# **Technology Advisory Committee**

## **Meeting Minutes**

## **September 11, 2008**

The Technology Advisory Committee met on September 11, 2008, in City Hall, Council Chambers.

#### I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.

#### II. Roll Call

\_x\_ Chris Price – Chair \_x\_ Mark Farr \_x\_ Oakel Hardy \_x\_ Mike Jamerson \_x\_ Mark McHolland \_x\_ Georgia Miller

\_x\_ Steve Baker \_x\_ Jim Hartsook

#### **Invited Guests:**

#### Other Attendees:

Stan Gamso, Counsel
John Conley, Tony Walton – Smithville Digital
Caleb Tennis – Data Mart
Jeff Jordan – AT&T
Brent Engle – InfoCom

### III. Open Issues

# a) Smithville Update

John Conley presented the monthly check from Smithville. He reported that Smithville was working with the City to help them develop an overall master plan.

Smithville recently entered into a contract with Reams Asset Management in conjunction with TLS. Smithville will be acting as a transporter.

The chairman questioned whether Smithville is in a position to provide performance measures. John responded that he would get some metrics information to the Committee by next meeting and would try to provide information from the date of the initial contact.

John further indicated that Smithville has extended an offer to an individual to act

as a sales rep in Columbus. Georgia questioned whether the Committee has had an opportunity see a job description for this position. John reported that he would get a copy of that description to the Committee. Smithville has also arranged with AEI to obtain an office in Columbus.

# b) Fiber Extension to City Utilities

Smithville has signed the addendum for fiber services to Columbus City Utilities. Completion date for that service is October 17. John reported Smithville intends to meet that completion date.

# c) Governance (CITE) update

The chairman reported that he and Oakel made a presentation to the City Council last Tuesday for the TAC budget and presented a request for an employee to assist with the needs of the Committee. Chris reported that the Council asked a number of pointed questions with regard to salary, but the request was not rejected outright. The request will be taken under consideration, and Council will notify us accordingly. In addition, the Council commented that it recognized the quality of work that was being performed by the TAC as well as the benefits that were being rendered to the City.

Council had posed a question as to whom this individual would be reporting. Chris indicated that he and Oakel stated that the individual's role would be an administrative one, and the Mayor had indicated that he or she would report to the Mayor.

Georgia questioned whether it would be helpful to obtain market data that could be presented to the Council to assist them in consideration of this request. After general discussion, the consensus was that it would be. Brent then offered to look into their sources to determine whether there was an opportunity to gather information as to the cost and services similar communities have for a CITE employee.

Chris commented that he would be making a presentation to the Economic Development Commission as to the TAC's activities next Wednesday.

# IV. Approval of Minutes from Prior Meeting

Meeting minutes for July 10, 2008, and minutes for a special meeting held on August 1, 2000, were presented and considered by the Committee. After consideration, Chris moved and Mark McHolland seconded to approve the minutes. Upon a call for a voice vote, both minutes were approved unanimously.

### V. New Business

a) Review of Technology Boulevard RFP

At the direction of the Committee, Brent Engle, InfoCom, prepared a draft for conduit construction and fiber optic services to extend conduit and fiber to the Technology Boulevard. Brent had previously submitted a copy of the proposal to the Committee by electronic mail.

Brent advised that the draft was designed to be twofold in nature: first, to extend the conduit system from Central and Second Street to the Technology Boulevard south of Marr and Gladstone; and second, to make available the opportunity for a vendor to bid for installation and management of fiber services within the conduit.

There was a presentation by Brent setting forth the map and the locations for a possible conduit installation as well as flexibility in developing the route such that a provider could minimize his or her cost. The Committee suggested that the draft also include a requirement that the proposals submitted be required to meet the conduit master plan for the City.

Brent and Oakel also discussed adding certain documents that the City requires to be submitted within the RFP as part of the overall package. Oakel committed to assisting Brent in locating those documents.

Jim Hartsook then presented a map and discussion of the various plans and routes that the County is considering. There was a general discussion by the Committee regarding various activities of the County with the idea of considering the best possible resources while at the same time maximizing and leveraging the abilities of both the City and the County to meet their respective data needs.

Concluding a lengthy discussion, the consensus was that the initial route as envisioned by the draft of the RFP afforded some additional opportunities. However in order to meet that need, it is necessary to obtain some additional information. The Committee agreed that the chairman seek an opportunity to review with the respective entities their data plans and needs for data services as well as construction plans, and after gathering all the appropriate information, direct Brent as to the route that should be included in the request or proposal.

A motion was made by Oakel that the basic elements and requirements as currently set forth in the RFP be adopted and the recommendation to the City be made to release the RFP for public consideration. Also included in his motion was the direction that the chairman of the TAC should have authority to decide the appropriate route. The routes identified by way of general discussion were an extension from the State Street and Central to Technology Boulevard, State Street County Garage down Marr Road to Technology Boulevard and from the County Jail through County property into adjoining farm fields all of which are to the west of the Technology Boulevard that would ultimately come into Technology Drive from the farm fields to the west. The motion was seconded by Georgia, and upon full consideration by the Committee, the motion passed unanimously. The chairman reported that he would notify the Committee members and Brent by way of e-mail as to his selection of the route subsequent to obtaining additional

information.

#### b) InfoCom Fees and Counsel Fees

The chairman reported that subsequent to budget discussions and the direction of the City Attorney, the full Committee would be considering the invoices on a monthly basis for InfoCom in addition to those of counsel.

InfoCom presented two (2) invoices for September and August which covered previously existing contracts in the amount of \$748.95 each. Also submitted were two (2) additional invoices, one on contract CO L-017 for \$1,012.00, one on contract COL-018 for \$975. Council submitted an invoice for services rendered in the amount of \$323.00. Oakel moved and Chris seconded to approve all invoices. Upon unanimous voice vote, all invoices were approved for payment.

### c) Other Business

The chairman reported that he had been asked by a member of the public to determine the status of the fiber optic material that is in Tipton Lakes subdivision. Chris reported to the Committee that he asked Brent to look into this matter. Brent advised that he had been working with the City Engineer's office and a person from Tipton Lakes to determine the status of the fiber and/or whether it has been abandoned. Once Brent obtains that information, he will so notify the chairman.

### VI. Adjournment

There being no other business the chairman adjourned the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley A. Gamso, Counsel